IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.:

09/812,276

MAR 0 5 2002 Filed:

March 20, 2001

SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND PROCESS OF PRODUCTION OF

SAME

Inventor:

Michio Horiuchi, et al.

Atty Doc. No.: 072-01

Certificate f Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Office as first class mail postage prepaid in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 22, 2002.

John F. McNulty, Reg. No. 23,028
Dated: February 23, 2002

COVER LETTER WITH CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Commissioner

for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Enclosed herewith are the following:

- (1) Cover Letter with Certificate of Mailing
- (2) Amendment
- (3) Paul & Paul postcard to be returned by the PTO.

THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY ADDITIONAL FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS COMMUNICATION, OR CREDIT ANY OVERPAYMENT, TO PAUL & PAUL DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 16-0750, ORDER NO. $\underline{\textit{b324}}$.

Respectfully submitted,

John F. McNulty Reg. No. 23,028 Paul & Paul

2900 Two Thousand Market Street

Philadelphia, PA 19103

(215) 568-4900

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AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Official Action of January 29, 2002.

Applicant hereby responds to the restriction requirement by traversing the requirement and electing the claims of group I; namely claims 1, 15 and 20 drawn to a semiconductor device.

Applicant hereby responds to the requirement for election of species, by traversing the requirement and electing the species of embodiment 8 (figs.29-31), with claims 20-22 and 27 readable thereon.

Both the restriction requirement and the requirement for election of species are traversed on the grounds that, in the interest of efficiency, both on the on the part of the Office and on the part of the applicant, all of the claims in this application should be examined together, in that there is undoubtedly some overlap in the areas of search directed to the different species and the semiconductor devices and the process of producing them.

Accordingly, reconsideration and action on all the claims is respectfully solicited.

Election FJONES 3-26-02 Respectfully submitted,

John F. McNulty Reg. No. 23,028 Paul & Paul

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